### ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

33 CAPITOL STREET CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

KELLY A. AYOTTE ATTORNEY GENERAL



MICHAEL A. DELANEY DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 12, 2005

Section 5 Submission

Chief, Voting Section Civil Rights Division Room 7254 – NWB Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20006

Re: Submission Under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act for:

New Hampshire Revised Statute Annotated ("RSA") 654:32, a STATUTE related to hearings on alterations to party registrations, most recently amended by Laws of 2003 Chapter 27 and previously amended by the chapters cited below.

Dear Voting Section Chief:

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1973 (c), the State of New Hampshire, through the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General, hereby submits RSA 654:32, a STATUTE related to hearings on alterations to party registrations, most recently amended by Laws of 2003 Chapter 27 and previously amended by the chapters cited below.

#### SUBMISSION:

In accordance with 28 C.F.R. § 51.27, the submission is as follows:

- a) Chapter 27 (2003) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 A).
  - 1. Chapter 4 (1994) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 B)
  - 2. Chapter 219 (1987) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (<u>Exhibit</u> 654:32 C)

- 3. Chapter 273 (1983) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 D)
- 4. Chapter 308 (1981) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 E)
- 5. Chapter 400 (1979) amending RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 F)
- b) The starting point for analysis, previously precleared, Chapter 436 (1979) recodifying RSA 55:037 as RSA 654:32 is attached (Exhibit 654:32 G).
- c) The changes made by amendments to RSA 654:32 are as follows:
  - 1. Chapter 27 (2003) makes the following changes:
    - a. Replace "7" with "7:00" throughout this statute
    - b. Replace "9" with "7:30" throughout this statute
    - c. Insert the phrase "...and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours..." at the end of the second sentence of this statute
    - d. Insert the phrase "...and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours..." at the end of the last sentence of this statute
  - 2. Chapter 4 (1994) replaces the word "day" with "Friday" in the second sentence of this statute
  - 3. Chapter 219 (1987) replaces all but the first sentence of the statute with the following: "Before the presidential primary, the session shall be on the day proceeding the first day of the filing period, between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Before the state primary election, the session shall be on Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m."
  - 4. Chapter 273 (1983) replaces the phrase "...between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m." with "...between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m." at the end of the statute
  - 5. Chapter 308 (1981) makes the following changes:

- a. Inserts the phrase "Before the presidential primary..." at the beginning of the second sentence of this statute
- b. Replace the phrase "...a declaration of candidacy..." with "...nomination petitions..." at the end of the second sentence of this statute
- c. Insert the sentence "Before the state primary election, the session shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and the last one shall be on the Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June for at least 2 hours between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m." at the end of the statute
- 6. Chapter 400 (1979) inserts the phrase "...as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both..." at the end of the first sentence of this statute
- d) This submission is made by: Senior Assistant Attorney General Orville B. Fitch II, 33 Capitol Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301, Phone: (603) 271-1238.
- e) The submitting authority is New Hampshire Attorney General, Kelly A. Ayotte for the State of New Hampshire.
- f) Not applicable.
- g) The changes for which pre-clearance is sought were made by a decision of the New Hampshire General Court (Legislature).
- h) In accordance with Amendment X of the U.S. Constitution, the New Hampshire General Court, the State's legislature, acting pursuant to the New Hampshire Constitution Part Second, Article 2, granting supreme legislative power within the state to the House and Senate, who with right to negate each other are granted power to make law through Part Second, Article 5. Additional authority regarding election law is vested in Part First, Article 11.

The legislature through a bicameral process passed law to create Chapter 27 (Exhibit 654:32 A). The bill was signed into law (by the Governor) on May 2, 2003, pursuant to New Hampshire Constitution Part Second, Article 44.

- i) Adoption dates:
  - 1. Chapter 27 (2003) adopted May 2, 2003

- 2. Chapter 4 (1994) adopted March 28, 1994
- 3. Chapter 219 (1987) adopted May 18, 1987
- 4. Chapter 273 (1983) adopted June 18, 1983
- 5. Chapter 308 (1981) adopted June 16, 1981
- 6. Chapter 400 (1979) adopted June 23, 1979

#### j) Effective dates:

- 1. Chapter 27 (2003) effective July 1, 2003
- 2. Chapter 4 (1994) effective May 27, 1994
- 3. Chapter 219 (1987) effective July 17, 1987
- 4. Chapter 273 (1983) effective August 17, 1983
- 5. Chapter 308 (1981) effective August 15, 1981
- 6. Chapter 400 (1979) effective August 22, 1979
- k) The changes have been enforced.
- 1) The changes affect the entire State of New Hampshire.
- m) The purpose for the changes are as follows:
  - 1. The purpose of the Chapter 27 (2003) change is to reduce the amount of time supervisors are required to hold a party registration alteration session before each election, from 2 hours to ½ hour, and to allow the supervisors discretion to hold longer sessions if they see fit. With the adoption of same day registration, the meetings did not need to be as long as previous statutes mandated.
  - 2. The purpose of the Chapter 4 (1994) change is to clarify when the party registration alteration session must be held, specifically on the Friday proceeding the first day of the filing period

- 3. The purpose of the Chapter 219 (1987) change is to clarify when the party registration alteration session must be held, specifying days and times when it is required to be held
- 4. The purpose of the Chapter 273 (1983) change is to change the hours this session must be held from between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- 5. The purpose of the Chapter 308 (1981) change is to separate the sessions for party registration alteration between the state and federal primaries, allowing different times for each and reserving some flexibility to the supervisors for when specifically to hold the two-hours sessions.
- 6. The purpose of the Chapter 400 (1979) change is to cite specifically the requirement that supervisors hold party registration alteration sessions to give authority for the requirements of this statute, namely the required time for those sessions
- n) These changes do not negatively target any protected class under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. 42 U.S.C. 1973c. They are expected to have neutral impact and do not meet the test of retrogression defined in *Reno v. Bossier Parish Sch. Bd*, 520 U.S. 471, 478 (1997). "(T)he ability of minority groups...to elect their choices to office" will not be diminished. *Beer v. U.S.*, 425 U.S. 130,141 (1976).
- o) None known.
- p) RSA 654:32 was precleared through 1979 on June 22, 2004 by D.O.J. file numbers 2004-2563, 2004-2581 and 2004-2582. A copy of this preclearance is attached as <a href="Exhibit 654:32 H">Exhibit 654:32 H</a>. This submission seeks preclearance of all subsequent changes.
- q) Not applicable as this is not a redistricting plan.
- r) Exhibit 654:32 I is a copy of a Press Release of this submission, its availability, and inviting comment to federal Department of Justice.

I expect the foregoing information is sufficient to enable the United States Attorney General to make the required determination pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. If further information is required or would be helpful, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

rville B. Fitch 1

Senior Assistant Attorney General

Civil Bureau (603) 271-1238

bud.fitch@doj.nh.gov

92669.doc

## EXHIBIT 654:32 A

Page 1 of 3

#### **HB 120 - FINAL VERSION**

12mar03...0545h

2003 SESSION

03-0309

03/09

HOUSE BILL 120

AN ACT relative to sessions for the correction of the checklist and sessions for changes of party registration.

SPONSORS: Rep. Flanagan, Rock 78

COMMITTEE: Election Law

#### AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill shortens to ½ hour the minimum required length for sessions for the correction of the checklist and sessions for changes of party registration. This bill also deletes certain obsolete references.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

12mar03...0545h

03-0309

03/09

#### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Three

AN ACT relative to sessions for the correction of the checklist and sessions for changes of party registration.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

27:1 Cities and Wards; Voters and Checklists; Reference Deleted. Amend RSA 44:5 to read as follows:

44:5 Voters and Checklists. Any person having his *or her* domicile within the city, qualified to vote as provided in RSA 654:1-654:2 and 654:4-654:6 and whose name is on the checklist shall be qualified to vote in city elections. The supervisors of the checklist shall prepare, post, and revise the checklist for city elections in the same manner as for a state election as provided in RSA 654:25-654:31 [except that the session provided for in RSA 654:27 to be held on the Tuesday 3 weeks prior to the election shall not be required].

27:2 Voters and Checklists; Session for Correction. Amend RSA 654:27 to read as follows:

654:27 Session for Correction. In cities and towns, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the correction of the checklist at some suitable place in the city or town on the Saturday 10 days prior to the election and upon which all hearings shall be finally closed; provided that if the Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, that session shall be held on Tuesday, 7 days prior to the election, between 7:00 p.m. and [8:00] 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. Notice of the day, hour, and place of each session of the board of supervisors shall be given upon the checklists first posted and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town at least 7 days prior to each such session. The reconvening of any session which has been adjourned shall not require the publication of notice.

27:3 Voters and Checklists; Procedure. Amend RSA 654:28 to read as follows:

654:28 Procedure. The supervisors of the checklist shall hear all applications for a correction of the checklist and the evidence submitted thereon and shall correct it according to their best knowledge so that it contains only the names of those persons qualified to vote at said election. The names of all persons not qualified to vote at the time of any session, but who shall clearly be qualified to vote on election day, may be added to the checklist at that session. The session which is held on the Saturday 10 days prior to election day shall be held as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and [12:00 p.m.] 11:30 a.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for additional hours. No additions or corrections shall be made after the Saturday session, except as provided in RSA 659:12 or RSA 654:27, provided, however, that if the Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, that session shall be held on Tuesday, 7 days prior to the election, between 7:00 p.m. and [8:00] 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. The additions and corrections resulting from such session shall be made to the previously posted checklist on or before midnight on the succeeding Friday either by additions or corrections to said checklist or by posting a new corrected checklist. Notice of such additions or corrections to the checklist shall also be given to the town or city clerk.

27:4 Voters and Checklists; Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Amend RSA 654:32 to read as follows:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the session shall be on the Friday preceding the first day of the filing period, between [7] 7:00 p.m. and [9] 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. Before the state primary election, the session shall be on Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June between [7] 7:00 p.m. and [9] 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours.

27:5 Town Elections; Voters and Checklists. Amend RSA 669:5 to read as follows:

669:5 Voters and Checklists. An updated checklist shall be used at all town meetings and elections for the same purposes a checklist is used at a state election and to insure that only qualified voters participate in town meeting discussions and votes, by voice or otherwise. The supervisors shall prepare, post, and revise the checklist for a town meeting or election in the same manner as for a state election as provided in RSA 654:25-654:31, provided, however, that the session for correction shall be held on Saturday 6 to 13 days prior to the election. The supervisors shall also hold one session for correction of the checklist on the day immediately prior to the first day of the filing period for candidates for town office, as provided in RSA 669:19 or 669:42, as applicable, from [7] 7:00 p.m. to [8] 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours.

27:6 School District Elections; Checklist. Amend RSA 671:15 to read as follows:

671:15 Checklist. An updated checklist shall be used at all school district elections and meetings for the same purposes as checklists are used by towns as provided in RSA 669:5. Any school district which is coextensive with the town in which it is located may, at an annual meeting under an article in the warrant for such meeting, vote to adopt as the checklist for school meetings the checklist of the town. In case of such adoption, the supervisors of the town checklist, acting as supervisors of the school district checklist, shall correct, certify, and post the checklist for the district as provided in RSA 654:25-654:31. [The session for correction of the checklist required by RSA 654:27 to be held-3 weeks prior to an election shall not be required for school district elections:] The session required to be held 10 days before the school district meeting or election may coincide with the session for correction held for the town meeting or election provided that the school meeting or election coincides with the town meeting or election. If the school meeting or election is held at a time other than the town meeting or election, a separate session for correction of the checklist shall be required to be held 10 days prior to the school district meeting or election.

27:7 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

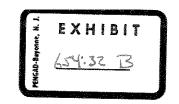
(Approved: May 2, 2003)

(Effective Date: July 1, 2003)

18feb93....1374h

2/3/94...3845s

3/17/94....5659B-EBA



#### HOUSE BILL - FINAL VERSION

#### 1994 SESSION 0835B

93-0492

10

HOUSE BILL NO. 514

INTRODUCED BY: Rep. Gilmore of Straf 11; Rep. Flanagan of Rock 14

REFERRED TO: Constitutional and Statutory Revision

AN ACT amending the election laws relative to the political calendar and election ballots.

#### AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill amends the statutory authorization for the secretary of state by specifying that the secretary of state's duties shall be those of both a legislative branch as well as an executive branch officer. The bill also changes the election laws by:

- (1) Amending the dates in the political calendar used by the secretary of state to administer the election laws.
- (2) Changing the number of state primary election ballots which must be furnished by the secretary of state to cities and towns.
- (3) Changing the time for placing and removing political advertising.
- (4) Changing certain penalty provisions for the violation of RSA 664.
- (5) Changing the fine which must be paid by candidates for the failure to file reports on political expenditures and contributions.
- (6) Clarifying which checklist shall be used at village district

Page 4 of 14

Place of birth:
Date of birth:
I hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
(Signature of applicant)

The penalty for perjury is a class B felony with a maximum sentence of imprisonment not to exceed 7 years and/or a fine not to exceed 4,000.

4:4 Time for Hearings on Alternations to Party Registration.
Amend RSA 654:32 to read as follows:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the session shall be on the [day] **Friday** preceding the first day of the filing period, between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Before the state primary election, the session shall be on Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

4:5 Time for Verification of Checklists. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 654:38 to read as follows:

On petition of 50 registered voters or 5 percent of the registered voters in any town or ward, whichever is less, or on petition of a majority of the board of supervisors of the checklist filed with the secretary of state [within 30 days] no later than the fifth Friday after a state election, the ballot law commission shall conduct an investigation to determine whether or not there should be a revision and verification of the checklist of said town or ward. At least one public hearing duly advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in said town or city shall be held by the commission at such time and place it may determine. In the event of an affirmative decision, the commission shall direct the supervisors to revise and verify such checklist. Thereupon the supervisors shall revise and verify such checklist in the following manner:

4:6 Time for Filing Petition; Straw Candidates. Amend RSA 655:31 to read as follows:

655:31 Straw Candidates. No person shall be a candidate for

Page 14 of 14

and meetings for the same purposes as checklists are used by towns as provided in RSA 669:5. Such checklist or checklists, if the district is located in more than one town, shall be used in the election of district officers.

4:34 Repeal. RSA 655:52, relative to filling vacancies among delegates of a presidential candidate, is repealed.

4:35 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: March 28, 1994

Effective: May 27, 1994

[1987

ember's servce payments.

s, II(h) to the s provided in 987, shall be II(h), on a 5t the rate of for group II al benefits to be funded as

Jeneral Court

as follows: w Hampshire here said highmore lanes.

General Court

; follows:

ner, his father's ter's daughter, mother's brother, or any other 1987] Chapter 219

193

218:2 Marriages Prohibited, Women. Amend RSA 457:2 to read as follows:

457:2 Marriages Prohibited; Women. No woman shall marry her father, her father's brother, mother's brother, son, brother, son's son, daughter's son, brother's son, sister's son, father's brother's son, mother's brother's son, father's sister's son, mother's sister's son, or any other woman.

218:3 Petition to Marry by Minor. Amend RSA 457:6 to read as follows:

457:6 Petition by Party Under Age. If special cause exists rendering desirable the marriage of a person resident in this state, or the marriage of a person who is a nonresident in this state who applies for permission to marry a resident in this state, either person being below the age of consent and above the ages specified in RSA 457:4, the parties desiring to contract such marriage, with the parent or guardian having the custody of such party below such age, if there be such parent or guardian, may apply in writing to a justice of the superior court, or to the judge of probate of the county in which one of them resides, for permission to contract such marriage. No waiver shall be granted to persons below the age of consent if both parties are nonresidents.

218:4 Marriages by Proxy Prohibited. Amend RSA 457:8 to read as follows:

457:8 Prohibitions. No town clerk shall issue any certificate for the marriage of any person below the age of consent, and no magistrate or minister of religion shall solemnize the marriage of any such person, if such clerk, magistrate or minister knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such person is below such age, unless permission for such marriage has been given under this subdivision. No magistrate or minister of religion shall solemnize any marriage by proxy.

218:5 Shortening Waiting Period. Amend RSA 457:27 to read as follows:

457:27 Shortening Period. On application to a justice of the superior court, or judge of probate within the county where the proposed marriage is to be solemnized, the court for good cause shown may order that the period of 3 days provided in RSA 457:26 be shortened. No time waiver shall be granted if both parties and their parents are nonresidents.

218:6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved May 18, 1987.] [Effective Date July 17, 1987.]

#### **CHAPTER 219 (SB 138)**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO SESSIONS FOR CORRECTING THE CHECKLIST.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

219:1 One Session for Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Amend RSA 654:32 to read as follows:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the session shall be on the day preceding the first day of the filing period, between 7 p.m. and 9

p.m. Before the state primary election, the session shall be on Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

219:2 Session for Correction; Town Elections. Amend RSA 669:5 to read as follows:

669:5 Voters and Checklists. An updated checklist shall be used at all town meetings and elections for the same purposes a checklist is used at a state election and to insure that only qualified voters participate in town meeting discussions and votes, by voice or otherwise. The supervisors shall prepare, post and revise the checklist for a town meeting or election in the same manner as for a state election as provided in RSA 654:25-654:31, except that the session for correction of the checklist 3 weeks prior to the day of the election as provided in RSA 654:27 shall not be required to be held before a town meeting or election. The supervisors shall also hold one session for correction of the checklist on the day immediately prior to the first day of the filing period for candidates for town office, as provided in RSA 669:19 or 669:42, as applicable, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

219:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved May 18, 1987.] [Effective Date July 17, 1987.]

#### **CHAPTER 220 (SB 172)**

AN ACT REGULATING THE TAKING OF CERTAIN WILDFLOWERS AND PLANTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

220:1 New Chapter; Plant Protection. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 217 the following new chapter:

#### CHAPTER 217-A

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE NATIVE PLANT PROTECTION

217-A:1 Title. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as "The New Hampshire Native Plant Protection Act of 1987".

217-A:2 Findings and Declarations. Because there are no laws protecting any of our native plants, every year hundreds of our native plants are dug up and removed without permission from public and private property. Many of these are taken out-of-state and sold for profit. Therefore, the legislature finds and declares that:

I. For human needs and enjoyment, the interests of science, and the economy of the state, native plants throughout this state should be protected and conserved; and that their numbers should be maintained and enhanced to insure their perpetuation as viable components of their ecosystems for the benefit of the people of New Hampshire.

II. Native species of plants within this state and the nation that are endangered, threatened, or otherwise reduced in number or may become so because of loss, modification, or severe curtailment of their habitats, or because of exploitation for commercial, scientific, educational, or private use, should be accorded protection as is necessary to maintain and enhance their numbers.

III. This state shall assist in the protection of species of plants that are determined to be endangered, threatened, or of special concern by prohibiting the tak-

1987

ing, possess this state, o federal and

IV. The

217-A:3 D I. "Com trial or trad and exchan buying and II. "Dep

II. "De ment.

III. "Er extinction t any species Species Act IV. "En

Public Law V. "Pers firm, partne the federal; government

VI. "Pla and other pa

VII. "Pr procedures measures pr ods and pro scientific retat acquisiti

VIII. "P threatened,

IX. "Spethe criteria partment, bunique quali

XI. "Tal age, destroy such conduc

XII. "The endangered portion of it threatened s

XIII. "N state agenci exchange in Hampshire.

(a) The

(c) The (d) The

(e) The (f) The

[1983

ldition to any other an, and in order to the state librarian

ssistance, informaions, or allocations or any related or

vith any organizas, pertaining to the

d specifications to

der this section. ersonnel, required

ts connected with

passage.

[BRARIES.

in General Court

II as inserted by place thereof the

town or city for nents for lost or ty or town under hall be used for ks, supplies and g separate fund

; after section 11

from a library's in a nonlapsing the purchase of d by the town or 20ž-A:11-b.

eceived from its ave the question rs are elected in 1983]

#### CHAPTER 273

261

the manner provided in RSA 39:3. Such question shall be presented for voter approval in the following manner:

(a) A public hearing shall be held by the board of selectmen at least 15 but not more than 30 days before the date the question is to be voted. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in 2 public places in the town and published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 7 days prior to the hearing.

b) For a town which has an official ballot for the election of town officers, the officer who prepares the ballot shall place the question on such official

ballot as it appears in subparagraph (d).

(c) For a town which does not have an official ballot for the election of town officers, the clerk shall prepare a ballot in the form as provided in subpara-

(d) The wording on the ballot shall be as follows: "Shall we permit the public library to retain all money it receives from its income-generating equipment to be used for general repairs and upgrading and for the purchase

of books, supplies and income-generating equipment?"

(e) Upon the ballot containing the question shall be printed the word "Yes" with a square near it at the right hand of the question; and immediately below the word "Yes" shall be printed the word "No" with a square near it at the right hand of the question. The voter desiring to vote upon the question shall make a cross in the square of his choice. If no cross is made in a square beside the question, the ballot shall not be counted on the question.

II. A city desiring to permit its library to retain money received from its income-generating equipment under RSA 202-A:11-a may have the question placed on the official ballot for any regular municipal election for the election of city officers upon a vote of the city council or upon submission of a petition signed by 5 percent of the registered voters of the city to the city council. Such queston shall be presented to the voters in the following manner:

(a) A public hearing shall be held by the city council at least 15 but not more than 30 days before the date the question is to be voted. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in 2 public places in the city and published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 7 days prior to the hearing.

(b) The question shall be placed on the official ballot by the city clerk with

the wording and in the form provided for in paragraph I(d).

III. Upon approval of the question by a majority of those voting on the question, the provisions of RSA 202-A:11-a shall be deemed to have been adopted.

IV. If after adoption of the provisions of RSA 202-A:11-a, any town or city desires to rescind its adoption, it may do so by referendum pursuant to paragraphs I or II by changing the wording in the question on the referendum.

272:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 18, 1983.] [Effective Date August 17, 1983.]

#### **CHAPTER 273 (HB 426)**

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN CHECKLIST PRACTICES.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

273:1 Change in Time for Additions or Corrections to Checklist. Amend RSA 654:28 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

654:28 Procedure. The supervisors of the checklist shall hear all applications for a correction of the checklist and the evidence submitted thereon and shall correct it according to their best knowledge so that it contains only the names of those persons qualified to vote at said election. The names of all persons not qualified to vote at the time of any session, but who shall clearly be qualified to vote on election day, may be added to the checklist at that session. Any session which is held on the Saturday 10 days prior to election day shall be held as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisor for additional hours. No additions or corrections shall be made after 6:00 p.m. on the session day which is held on the Saturday 10 days prior to election day, except as provided in RSA 659:12. The additions and corrections resulting from such sessions shall be made to the previously posted checklist on or before midnight on the succeeding Friday either by additions or corrections to said checklist or by posting a new corrected checklist. Notice of such additions or corrections to the checklist shall also be given to the town or city clerk.

273:2 Change in Time for Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Amend RSA 654:32 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 as amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and shall not be closer in time to such primary than the day immediately prior to the first day for the filing of nomination petitions. Before the state primary election, the sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and the last one shall be on the Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

273:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 18, 1983.] [Effective Date August 17, 1983.]

#### **CHAPTER 274 (HB 448)**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE HEALTH FACILITIES LICENSING LAWS.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

274:1 Application for License. Amend RSA 151:4 by inserting after para-

graph IV the following new paragraph:

V. The division of public health services in the department of health and welfare shall not accept or process the license application of a facility operating under suspension or revocation of a license until any violation of this chapter or of rules adopted thereunder has been corrected and the facility has paid to the division a reinspection fee equal to the annual license fee established in RSA 151:5.

198 27

and 15 I.' shal

may class II. may grot

char

ador

of pasion rize II well the IV

well

adn

sect
1!
I.
may
lice:

the

the reir RS, exe

151 1 put

RS. dep pec

am foll I and 1981

CHAPTER 308

315

e tags for

passage.

ral Court

132:11 as ereof the

ŠÁ 132:12 out these

available .l subdivi-

and local 1g the sernistration

tablished. ections:

ne division am within ith federal subject to

am for any

ts in lieu of

ther custo-

ie program

s to obtain

iging them

irchases of pplemental

132:12-d Recovery by the State. Upon a determination that a person has raudulently obtained funds under this program, the state may bring an requirement of those funds shall not relieve a discharge discharge funds about not recover the funds. Any funds so recovered shall be remitted to the broper federal officials as required under federal law or regulation. Demand and payment of these funds shall not relieve or discharge any person of and payment of these funds shall not relieve of discharge any person of fability, either civil or criminal, for additional amounts or penalties as may be prescribed under any other applicable law.

307:3 Penalties Expanded. Amend RSA 132:15 as amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

132:15 Penalties. Any person committing a fraud on the women, infants, and children program under RSA 132:12-a shall be charged under RSA 638:15. Any person violating any other provision of this subdivision or any rule adopted under this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

307:4 Criminal Penalties for Fraud. Amend RSA 638 by inserting after section 14 the following new section:

638:15 Fraud on the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program. I. A person is guilty of fraud on the women, infants, and children program if he is a vendor who embezzles, purposely misapplies, steals, or obtains by fraud or theft any funds, assets, or property provided under RSA 132:12-a or if he receives, conceals, or retains such funds, assets, or property for his own use, knowing them to have been embezzled, purposely misapplied, stolen, or obtained by fraud or theft.

II. Fraud on the women, infants, and children program is:

(a) A class A felony where the value of the funds, assets, or property

(b) A class B felony where the value of the funds, assets, or property exceeds \$1,000; exceeds \$100, but is not more than \$1,000;

(c) A misdemeanor in all other cases. III. A person is guilty of a misdemeanor if he is a participant who:

(a) By a purposely false statement or misrepresentation or by impersonation or other purposely fraudulent act or device attempts to obtain or obtains funds under RSA 132:12-a to which he is not entitled;

(b) Purposely and knowingly aids or abets any person, by a purposely false statement or misrepresentation or by impersonation or other purposely fraudulent act or device, to attempt to obtain or obtain funds under RSA

132:12-a to which the person is not entitled; (c) Purposely fails to disclose the receipt of property, wages, income, or resources or any change in circumstances that would affect his eligibility for assistance under RSA 132:12-a, to obtain funds or assistance to which he is not entitled.

307:5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 16, 1981.] [Effective Date August 15, 1981.]

#### CHAPTER 308 (HB 879)

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TIME FOR CHANGING PARTY AFFILIATION AND FILING CANDIDACIES FOR THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

**308:1 Party Registration.** Amend RSA 654:15 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

**654:15 Party Registration.** Whenever names are added to the checklist the supervisors shall register the party membership of the voter if he desires such membership registered. The party membership of each voter may be registered by writing in ink, printing, or rubber stamping after the name of such voter the first 3 letters of the name of the party with which he registers.

**308:2** Checklist Session. Amend RSA 654:32 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 as amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and shall not be closer in time to such primary than the day immediately prior to the first day for the filing of nomination petitions. Before the state primary election, the sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and the last one shall be on the Fuesday before the first Wednesday in June for at least 2 hours between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

308:3 Reference Changed. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 654:34, I(a) (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 as amended by striking out in line 4 the reference "RSA 654:15" and inserting in place thereof the following (paragraph IV) so that said paragraph as amended shall read as follows:

(a) Any legal voter whose party membership has been registered may change such registration by appearing in person before the supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward any time they meet, except as prohibited by paragraph IV, and stating to them under oath or affirmation, if required, that:

308:4 Another Reference Changed. Amend RSA 654:34, II(a) (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 as amended by striking out in line 4 the reference "RSA 654:15" and inserting in place thereof the following (paragraph IV) so

that said paragraph as amended shall read as follows:

(a) Any legal voter who has not been registered as a member of any party may register as a member of the party of his choice by appearing before the supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward any time they meet, except as prohibited by paragraph IV, and stating to them, under oath or affirmation, if required, that he intends to affiliate with and generally supports the candidates of the party with which he offers to register, in which case he shall be registered as a member of such party.

308:5 New Paragraph. Amend RSA 654:34 by inserting after paragraph

III the following new paragraph:

IV. No person, who is already registered to vote, whether his party membership has been previously registered or not, shall affiliate with a party or disaffiliate from a party between the first Wednesday in June and the day before the state primary election.

308:6 Further Reference Changed. Amend RSA 654:34-a, VII (supp) as inserted by 1979, 400:1 by striking out in line 8 the number "654:15" and

inserting amended VII. The sors of the by RSA (change of be affiliate the check the check RSA 654; made as (change as (change))

308:7 RSA 65E and inser The na primary age and d election, file with third We 655:17, a

> 308:85 1979, 436 primary Wednesc

655:26 tions are ascertain to be con reason w the same candidat the third

308:9

[Approv. [Effective]

Be it En

309:1 I. The rized to agreeme II. The Londone reral Court

ed by 1979, e following:

hecklist the lesires such ay be regisame of such gisters.

ed by 1979. lace thereof

'e each state t shall be in al voters as al primary, s they deem ian the day ions. Before and at such he Tuesday 3 p.m. and 9

aph of RSA ıg out in line ie following follows: istered may visors of the ohibited by if required,

(a) (supp) as ie reference graph IV) so

of any party g before the et, except as firmation, if ts the candie he shall be

r paragraph

party memh a party or and the day

/II (supp) as 654:15" and

1981] inserting in place thereof the following (654:34, IV.) so that said paragraph as

amended shall read as follows:

VII. The town or city clerk shall present to the next meeting of the supervisors of the checklist, in accordance with the checklist guidelines as provided by RSA 654:25, the name of any person who made application to him for a change of party affiliation and the name of the party with which he desires to be affiliated or that he desires to be affiliated with no party. The supervisors of the checklist shall cause the party affiliation of the applicant to be changed on the checklist. Any change submitted which is prohibited by the provisions of RSA 654:34, IV, shall be retained by the supervisors; and the change shall be made as soon as permitted by law.

308:7 Filing Period Altered. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 655:14 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out said paragraph

and inserting in place thereof the following:

The name of any person shall not be printed upon the ballot of any party for a primary unless he is a registered member of that party, he shall have met the age and domicile qualifications for the office he seeks at the time of the general election, he meets all the other qualifications at the time of filing, and he shall file with the appropriate official between the first Wednesday in June and the third Wednesday in June a declaration of candidacy as provided in RSA 655:17, and

308:8 Supplementary Petitions. Amend RSA 655:26 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out in line 8 the words "less than 75 days before the primary" and inserting in place thereof the following (later than the third Wednesday in June) so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

655:26 Examination and Rejection. The officer with whom primary petitions are filed shall immediately upon receipt thereof examine the same and ascertain whether they conform to the law. If found not to conform thereto or to be conflicting as provided in RSA 655:23, he shall then endorse thereon the reason why such petition cannot be accepted and shall, within 24 hours, return the same to the candidate in whose behalf it was filed. In such case, the candidate may file supplementary petitions with the official but not later than the third Wednesday in June.

308:9 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 16, 1981.] [Effective Date August 15, 1981.]

#### CHAPTER 309 (HB 883)

AN ACT CREATING AN AIRPORT DISTRICT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MANCHESTER AND THE TOWN OF LONDONDERRY.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

309:1 Manchester-Londonderry Airport District.

I. The city of Manchester and the town of Londonderry are hereby authorized to establish an airport district in accordance with the intermunicipal agreement made on March 3, 1981, between Manchester and Londonderry.

II. The district shall consist of all lands approved by the voters of the town of Londonderry at the town meeting held in March, 1981, Article 24 as amended. 560

CHAPTER 400

[1979

a certain county, establish, conduct, manage, or operate a facility without having a license to do so, without averring any further or more particular facts concerning the same.

399:11 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 23, 1979.] [Effective Date August 22, 1979.]

#### **CHAPTER 400 (HB 244)**

AN ACT PERMITTING CHANGES IN PARTY AFFILIATION TO BE REGISTERED WITH A TOWN OR CITY CLERK IF SO VOTED BY REFERENDUM.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

400:1 New Sections. Amend RSA 654 by inserting after section 34 the following new sections:

654:34-a Application to Town or City Clerk; Changes to Be Forwarded.

I. A town or city may permit changes in party affiliation to be registered

with a town or city clerk.

II. In addition to the methods of changing party affiliation provided in RSA 654:34, any person whose name appears on the checklist of a town or ward may apply to the town or city clerk for the purpose of having his party affiliation changed. A person desiring to change his party affiliation shall state to the town or city clerk under oath or affirmation that:

(a) He intends to affiliate with and generally supports the party with

which he offers to register; or

(b) He does not wish to be registered as a member of any party.

III. No application for a change of party affiliation shall be accepted on the day of a primary election.

IV. Any application made under the provisions of this section shall be made

during the regular office hours of the town or city clerk.

V. Town and city clerks shall have the power to administer oaths to the applicants that appear before them for the purposes of this section.

VI. Any application made under the provisions of this section shall be

signed and dated by the applicant.

VII. The town or city clerk shall present to the next meeting of the supervisors of the checklist, in accordance with the checklist guidelines as provided by RSA 654:25, the name of any person who made application to him for a change of party affiliation and the name of the party with which he desires to be affiliated or that he desires to be affiliated with no party. The supervisors of the checklist shall cause the party affiliation of the applicant to be changed on the checklist. Any change submitted which is prohibited by the provisions of RSA 654:15 shall be retained by the supervisors; and the change shall be made as soon as permitted by law.

654:34-b Procedure for Adoption.

I. A town desiring to adopt the provisions of RSA 654:34-a may have the question placed on the warrant for a town meeting at which town officers are elected in the manner provided in RSA 39:3. Such question shall be presented for voter approval in the following manner:

1979]

(a) For a town the officer who pr ballot as it appears

(b) For a town town officers, the subparagraph (c).

(c) The wordin 654:34-a shall be a permitting applicatown clerk?"

(d) Upon the 1 "Yes" with a square below the word "Ye the right hand of t shall make a cross beside the question

II. A city desirir question placed on telection of city offic petition signed by council. The questic the wording and in word "city" shall be III. Upon approx

111. Upon approvaguestion, the provis and shall take effec

IV. If after adop desires to rescind paragraphs I or II, "rescind" in the que the adoption of the 1 become effective un

400:2 Hearings. striking out said sec

654:32 Hearings or presidential prin session for the change 654:34 or 654:34-a or other times as they primary than the declaration of candi

400:3 Change Ti 436:1 by striking ou ing in place thereof

(a) Any legal ve change such registrachecklist for his tow RSA 654:15, and sta

400:4 Time for A by 1979, 436:1 by s thereof the following

(a) Any legal vot may register as a mo thout cular

ssage.

RED

mrt

34 the

For-

stered

1 RSA d may iation to the

7 with

on the

made

to the

all be

pervivided 1 for a ires to sorsof ged on ions of made

ve the ers are sented

(a) For a town which has an official ballot for the election of town officers, the officer who prepares the ballot shall place the question on such official ballot as it appears in subparagraph (c).

(b) For a town which does not have an official ballot for the election of town officers, the clerk shall prepare a ballot in the form as provided in

subparagraph (c).

1979]

(c) The wording on the ballot of any referendum for the adoption of RSA 654:34-a shall be as follows: "Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 654:34-a permitting applications for changes in party affiliation to be made with the town clerk?"

(d) Upon the ballot containing the question shall be printed the word "Yes" with a square near it at the right hand of the question; and immediately below the word "Yes" shall be printed the word "No" with a square near it at the right hand of the question. The voter desiring to vote upon the question shall make a cross in the square of his choice. If no cross is made in a square beside the question, the ballot shall not be counted on the question.

II. A city desiring to adopt the provisions of RSA 654:34-a may have the question placed on the official ballot for any regular municipal election for the election of city officers upon a vote of the city council or upon submission of a petition signed by 5 percent of the registered voters of the city to the city council. The question shall be placed on the official ballot by the city clerk with the wording and in the form provided for in paragraph I (c) except that the word "city" shall be substituted for the word "town".

III. Upon approval of the question by a majority of those voting on the question, the provisions of RSA 654:34-a shall be deemed to have been adopted

and shall take effect on January 1 next following the referendum.

IV. If after adoption of the provisions of RSA 654:34-a, any town or city desires to rescind its adoption, it may do so by referendum pursuant to paragraphs I or II, by changing in paragraph I (c) the word "adopt" to read "rescind" in the question on the referendum; and provided, further, that after the adoption of the provisions of RSA 654:34-a, any action to rescind shall not become effective until January 1 next following the action taken to rescind.

400:2 Hearings. Amend RSA 654:32 (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the change of party registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. The sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and shall not be closer in time to the primary than the day immediately prior to the first day for the filing of a declaration of candidacy.

400:3 Change Time. Amend RSA 654:34, I (a), (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out the introductory part of said subparagraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

(a) Any legal voter whose party membership has been registered may change such registration by appearing in person before the supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward any time they meet, except as prohibited by RSA 654:15, and stating to them under oath or affirmation, if required, that:

400:4 Time for Amending. Amend RSA 654:34, II (a), (supp) as inserted by 1979, 436:1 by striking out said subparagraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

(a) Any legal voter who has not been registered as a member of any party may register as a member of the party of his choice by appearing before the supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward any time they meet, except as prohibited by RSA 654:15, and stating to them, under oath or affirmation, if required, that he intends to affiliate with and generally supports the candidates of the party with which he offers to register, in which case he shall be registered as a member of such party.

400:5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 23, 1979.]

[Effective Date August 22, 1979.]

Editor's Note. This chapter was edited in accordance with 1979, 436:9.]

#### **CHAPTER 401 (HB 289)**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE VETERINARY PRACTICES ACT.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

401:1 New Section. Amend RSA 332-B by inserting after section 3 the following new section:

332-B:3-a Temporary Member. The chairman or acting chairman of the board is authorized to appoint an additional person to sit on a temporary or emergency basis at any hearing at which one or more board members is absent, so long as the person so chosen has in the past served as a board member.

401:2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

[Approved June 23, 1979.] [Effective Date August 22, 1979.]

#### **CHAPTER 402 (HB 362)**

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTAIN LICENSING REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING REGISTERED AND PRACTICAL NURSES.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

**402:1 Powers of the Board**. Amend RSA 326-B:4, VIII (supp) as inserted by 1975, 281:1, by inserting in line 2 after the word "license" the following (or registration) so that said paragraph as amended shall read as follows:

VIII. Conduct hearings upon charges calling for the discipline of a licensee, or denial, suspension or revocation of a license or registration.

402:2 Qualifications for Practical Nurses. Amend RSA 326-B:7, I (c) (supp), as inserted by 1975, 281:1, by striking out said subparagraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

(c) Written evidence of graduation from an approved school of practical nursing, or graduation from an approved school of professional nursing and evidence of having exhausted all opportunities, as determined by the board, to take the examination for registered nurse licensure.

1979]

402:3 I by 1975, : the follow

III. The

(a) A practical different if, in the 326-B:7,

(b) A state or written li satisfacto filing app Such p

requirem
402:4 l
(supp) as
the follow

follows:

I. The lition or lite chapter,

402:5 ( 1975, 281 tion or) se

(h) E pended o

402:61 inserting said sect

326-B tion or li chapter, ment of 1 least 14 c registere involved.

402:71 281:1 by tion) so t III. Pr

or regist

402:8 281:1 by thereof t follows:

326-B be admir of finance

shall correct it according to their best knowledge so that it contains only the names of those persons qualified to vote at said election. The names of all persons not qualified to vote at the time of any session, but who shall clearly be No additions or corrections shall be made after 6:00 p.m. Saturday 10 days prior to election day, except as provided in RSA 659:12. The additions and tions or corrections to said checklist or by posting a new corrected checklist. Notice of such additions or corrections to the checklist shall also be given to the 654:28 Procedure. The supervisors of the checklist shall hear all applications for a correction of the checklist and the evidence submitted thereon and corrections resulting from such sessions shall be made to the previously posted checklist on or before midnight on the succeeding Wednesday either by addiqualified to vote on election day, may be added to the checklist at that session. town or city clerk.

654:29 Certification of List.

I. The supervisors shall subscribe and make oath to the following certificate on the back of the checklist, as corrected by them: We, the supervisors of the solemnly swear that, according to our best knowledge, the within list (number) names of those persons only who are, by actual domicile, legal voters in said town (or ward), checklist of the town (or ward) of contains

II. They shall file a true copy of the corrected list, attested by them, with the town clerk. The checklists so corrected shall be used at the election. Any person who swears falsely in making such certificate shall be guilty of perjury 654:30 Correcting Data Files. After each state election, the supervisors shall use the checklist from such election to correct the standard data files to conform to any changes which are evident from the checklist. The standard data file so maintained and corrected shall be a public record open to inspection at reasonable times and as otherwise required by law.

654:31 Availability of Checklist. The checklist as corrected by the supervisors shall be open for the examination of any person at all times before the election, the supervisors shall furnish to any person requesting the same a of the checklist which was used in said election without the voting marks opening of a meeting or election at which the list is to be used. After each state thereon and with or without party designations at the discretion of said supervisors. The supervisors may charge a reasonable fee for these copies for the use of the town or city.

# Checklists: Additional Provisions for Primary Elections

or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the change of party registration of legal voters. The sessions shall be on 2 days, at least, and at such other times as they deem necessary, and shall 654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state not be closer in time to the primary than the day immediately prior to the first day for the filing of a declaration of candidacy.

copies of the checklist, showing the persons in the town or ward entitled to yote, with their party registration, so far as such registration has been made, in 2 or more public places in such town or ward at least 10 days prior to such session; and notice of the date, hour and place of the sessions to revise such 654:33 Posting Copies; Notice of Sessions. The supervisors shall post registration shall be given upon such checklists.

654:34 Change of Registration.

CHAPTER

I. Change of registration of a voter whose party membership has been previously registered

change such registration by appearing in person before the supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward at any session provided for in RSA 654:32 and (a) Any legal voter whose party membership has been registered may

stating to them under oath or affirmation, that:

(1) He intends to affiliate with and generally supports the candidates of the party with which he offers to register, in which case he shall be registered as a member of such party; or

(2) He does not wish to be registered as a member of any party, in which case his party designation shall be removed from the checklist.

(b) He may also change such registration at any primary, upon making oath or affirmation to the same effect, but he shall not be permitted in such case to vote the ballot of any party at such primary.

II. Change of registration of a voter whose party membership has not been

previously registered.

he intends to affiliate with and generally supports the candidates of the party with which he offers to register, in which case he shall be registered as a supervisors of the checklist for his town or ward at any session provided for in RSA 654.27 and stating to them, under oath or affirmation, if required, that (a) Any legal voter who has not been registered as a member of any party may register as a member of the party of his choice by appearing before the member of such party.

(b) He may also register as a member of a party at any primary by requesting and voting the ballot of the party of his choice and if challenged, he shall take an oath or affirmation to the effect that he intends to affiliate with and generally supports the candidates of that party.

id generally supports the candidates of many reason. III. Notwithstanding any provision of paragraphs I and II to the contrary, primary change his party registration or change his registration so that he is no person who has voted in a primary may thereafter on the day of registered as a member of no party.

prepare a corrected checklist showing the registration of party members as corrected by them; and such checklist with the corrections that shall have 654:35 Corrected List. After a pre-primary session, the supervisors shall been made in the sessions provided for in RSA 654:27 through 654:32 shall be used at the primary

# Periodic Maintenance and Verification of Checklists

They shall retain the notice as proof of their reasoning in striking the name received a notice of transfer from another board of supervisors of the checklist in the state of New Hampshire that a voter whose name is on the checklist has been added to the checklist of some other town or city, they shall strike that 654:36 Reports of Transfer. If the supervisors of the checklist have name from the checklist at the next session for the correction of the checklist. from the checklist

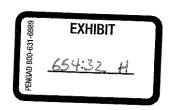
town or city clerk shall notify the supervisors of the checklist of s submitting a notice of same to the supervisors at their next regu Upon receipt of such notice, the supervisors shall examine the cl 654:37 Reports of Death. Whenever there is filed in his offi if the name of said deceased person appears thereon, it shall be re to the next election. Any supervisor who shall neglect or refuse name of such deceased voter from the checklist after receiving notice of the death of any person or persons of the age of 18 year from the town or city clerk shall be guilty of a violation.





#### U.S. Department of Justice

#### Civil Rights Division



JDR:RPL:SMC:jdh DJ 166-012-3 2004-2563 2004-2581 2004-2582 Voting Section - NWB 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20530

June 22, 2004

Orville B. Fitch II, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Bureau
Department of Justice
33 Capitol Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-6397

Dear Mr. Fitch:

This refers to Session Law Chapter 436 (HB 575)(1979), which recodifies the election laws of the State of New Hampshire; Session Law Chapter 266 (HB 577)(2003), which implements the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), 42 U.S.C. 15301-15545; and the adoption of formal administrative procedures for the resolution of election law complaints, including complaints filed under Title III of HAVA, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submissions on June 7, 2004.

The Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the specified changes. Regarding Session Law Chapter 266, we note that the act specifically amends the following provisions of the State's election laws: RSA 655:19, II (Chapter 387 (1991))(to provide for the deposit of certain candidate filing fees collected by the secretary of state into the election fund); RSA 655:19-c (Chapter 387 (1991))(to provide for the deposit of any administrative assessments paid to the secretary of state into the election fund); RSA 664:3, I (Chapter 351 (1997))(to provide for the deposit of political committee registration fees paid to the secretary of state into the election fund); RSA 664:21, II (Chapter 351 (1997)) (to provide for the deposit of any administrative fines for violations of the State's campaign finance laws into the election fund); and RSA 665:7 (Chapter 436 (1979)) (to authorize the Ballot Law Commission to hear and resolve complaints alleging violations of Title III of HAVA, as specified).

We note also that Section 5 expressly provides that the failure of the Attorney General to object does not bar subsequent litigation to enjoin the enforcement of the changes. In addition, as authorized by Section 5, we reserve the right to reexamine this submission if additional information that would otherwise require an objection comes to our attention during the remainder of the sixty-day review period. See Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act (28 C.F.R. 51.41 and 51.43).

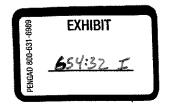
Session Law Chapter 266 includes provisions that are enabling in nature. Therefore, the State is not relieved of its responsibility to seek Section 5 preclearance of any changes affecting voting proposed to be implemented pursuant to this legislation (e.g., creation of a centralized statewide voter registration database by the secretary of state and guidelines issued by the secretary of state implementing the database). See 28 C.F.R. 51.15.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Rich Chief, Voting Section

### ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

33 CAPITOL STREET CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397



MICHAEL A. DELANEY DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

KELLY A. AYOTTE
ATTORNEY GENERAL



#### News Release

**RELEASED BY:** 

Attorney General Kelly A. Ayotte

SUBJECT:

Voting Rights Act – Submission of a request for preclearance of

changes to New Hampshire Voting laws and procedures

DATE:

June 10, 2005

RELEASE TIME:

**Immediate** 

Attorney General Kelly A. Ayotte announces the submission of requests for preclearance of changes made to the election laws in New Hampshire to the Federal Department of Justice. Preclearance submissions will address changes made to New Hampshire's election laws since jurisdictions in the State became subject to preclearance.

Ten New Hampshire towns are subject to section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act. Changes to New Hampshire election laws that affect any of these ten towns must be submitted for review by either the Federal Department of Justice or the Federal District Court for Washington D.C. The federal Department of Justice will review the changes to New Hampshire's election laws to ensure that the changes do not have the effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color, or membership in a language minority group. Changes to New Hampshire redistricting statutes have been submitted to, and approved by, the U.S. Justice Department since the 1980 census. Federal regulations require that the public be notified that the State has filed a request for preclearance and that the submission be available for public inspection.

News Release – Voting Rights Act section 5 Preclearance Submission June 10, 2005
Page 2 of 2

Copies of each submission by the Attorney General for the State of New Hampshire are available at the office of the Attorney General at 33 Capitol Street, Concord New Hampshire, 03301. Each document will also be made available at the Attorney General's Office web site at:

#### http://www.doj.nh.gov/elections/

Attorney General Ayotte and the federal Department of Justice invite persons interested in this submission to submit comments and information, in writing or by telephone, to the Voting Section of the Federal Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, at the earliest possible date to ensure that they may be considered during the preclearance review time period. Telephone 1-800-253-3931 or (202) 307-2385 or write Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division, Room 7354 – NWB, Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20530. The envelope and first page should be marked "Comment under section 5." Additional information on the Voting Rights Act and the preclearance process can be obtained at the web site of the Federal Department of Justice at:

http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting/index.htm

The New Hampshire Attorney General's Office Voting section can be contacted at:

http://www.doj.nh.gov/elections/ New Hampshire Toll Free 1-866-8868-3703 or 1-866-VOTER03 electionlaw@doj.nh.gov

80831.doc